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## BRIEFER ARTICLES.

### A NEW WESTERN CAMASSIA.

IN 1880 Mr. William N. Suksdorf collected in Falcon valley, Washington, specimens of *Camassia*, which were sent to the Gray Herbarium for identification. One of these specimens was correctly referred by the late Sereno Watson to *Camassia esculenta* Lindl.; the other, an incomplete specimen, and a duplicate collected in 1883, were referred to *C. Leichtlinii* Watson. Since that time the same collector has carefully watched the growth of these plants in the field, and has even brought several species of the genus into garden cultivation for the purpose of ascertaining their true systematic position and relationship. Full notes and additional complete specimens have been forwarded the writer by Mr. Suksdorf, together affording the satisfactory separation of the plant from the species with which it has been hitherto confused, as well as from all other described species of the genus. It is fitting that this new *Camassia* bear Mr. Suksdorf's name, and the author takes great pleasure in dedicating it to him. A description is herewith appended:

***Camassia Suksdorfi*** Greenman, n. sp.—Bulbs ovate, 1 to 2<sup>cm</sup> in diameter: leaves narrowly lorate, 3<sup>dm</sup> or less long, 0.5 to 2<sup>cm</sup> broad: scape 3 to 7<sup>dm</sup> high, few-flowered: bracts lance-attenuate, membranous, mostly shorter than the elongated 1–3.5<sup>cm</sup> long arcuate-ascending pedicels: flowers regular, blue or in the dried state somewhat violet, fully 5<sup>cm</sup> in diameter when completely expanded; perianth segments lanceolate, 3 to 3.5<sup>cm</sup> long, about 8<sup>mm</sup> broad, mostly 5-nerved, in the later stages closing over the ovary and becoming somewhat spirally twisted: cells of the ovary about 12-ovuled: capsule 1.5 to 3.5<sup>cm</sup> long, 10 to 12<sup>mm</sup> in diameter, obtusely angled: seeds ovate, 3 to 4<sup>mm</sup> long.—Washington, in wet meadows, Falcon valley, *Suksdorf*, no. 251, June–July 1883, and July 1880, *Suksdorf*, no. 509; near Bingen, altitude 600<sup>m</sup>, 21 May 1900, *Suksdorf*, no. 2663. A white-flowered form of this species was collected in a wet meadow in W. Klickitat county, Washington, altitude about 600<sup>m</sup>, 19 May 1891, *Suksdorf*, no. 2023.

The species here proposed is distinguished from *Camassia esculenta*

Lindl. by the larger flowers, longer pedicels, which usually exceed the subtending bract, and by the larger fruit and seed. In the mature specimens the capsules are erect and disposed on arcuate-ascending pedicels, so that the fruiting raceme is 4 to 5<sup>cm</sup> in diameter instead of 2 to 3<sup>cm</sup> as in *C. esculenta*. From *C. Leichtlinii* Watson, to which Suksdorf's no. 509 was referred, *C. Suksdorfii* differs in the color of the flowers, the less sharply triangular, thinner, and less conspicuously nerved capsule. The seeds, moreover, in *C. Suksdorfii* are longer and have a more bluish luster than in *C. Leichtlinii*.—J. M. GREENMAN, *Gray Herbarium*.